GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:130
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2003
RISE IN URBAN POPULATION
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV;RAM JEEVAN SINGH

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated rise in the Urban population at the end of 2002 as compared to the population in 2001;

(b) the estimated rise in the urban people living below the poverty line at the end of 2002 as compared to people living below the poverty line at the end of 2001;

(c) the details of States in the country which have shown progressive rise in the number of people living below the poverty line stating the per capita income as compared to the national level; and

(d) the manner in which the Union Government propose to raise the living standard of the urban people living below the poverty line during the Tenth Plan period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI RADHAKIRISHNAN)

(a): Office of the Registrar General of India carries out the census of the population of India at an interval of every ten years. The last census was conducted by them for the year 2001. The urban population has shown an increase of 31.14% from 217.60 million (in the year 1991) to 285.35 million (in the year 2001).

(b): Planning Commission estimates the percentage of persons living below the poverty line at the national and state levels from the large sample surveys on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. As per the latest estimates provided by them, the percentage of urban poor has come down by 8.74% from 32.36% in the year 1993-94 to 23.62% in the year 1999-2000.

(c): Planning Commission adopts the criteria for below poverty line, which is based on surveys conducted by NSSO on consumer expenditure. Based on such criteria, only one state, viz. Orissa has shown an upward rise in the estimated BPL population from 41.64% in 1993-94 to 42.83% in 1999-2000.

(d): To raise the living standards of the urban poor, inter-alia, Government is implementing a centrally sponsored urban poverty alleviation programme called `Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)` and another centrally sponsored scheme called `Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY)` for providing shelter/upgraded shelter to the Urban poor slum dwellers living below the poverty line as also the community sanitation under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan component of the programme and also an Additional Central Assistance (ACA) programme called National Slum Development Programme (NSDP) for upgradation of urban slums by providing basic minimum amenities like water supply, storm water drain, community bath, widening and paving of existing lanes, sewers, community latrines, street lights etc.